

27th Has Four Men Who Won Highest Honors

Five Congressional Medals Awarded to the Division for Unusual Heroism

Three Given to the 77th Lockport Soldier Breaks Up German Machine Gun Position Single Handed

By Wilbur Forrest

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PARIS, Feb. 13.—New York City will soon have the opportunity of welcoming home the 27th Division, four men who received the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an American soldier for extraordinary bravery. Five Congressional medals have been won by the division—up to now the highest number of the coveted honors awarded any division in the American army. With the three Congressional medals awarded to members of the 77th Division, this gives New York State a total of eight—possibly the record held by troops from any state in the Union.

Only one of the eight was awarded posthumously. Thomas E. O'Shea, of 90 West Street, New York City, was killed in action September 29 near Le Cateau, during a battle in which the 27th Division broke the Hindenburg line. O'Shea and two other members of the machine gun company of the 107th Regiment—Sergeant Alan Eggers, of 461 Eighth Avenue, New York City, and Sergeant J. C. Latham, of Westmoreland, England, who joined the regiment in New York—became separated from their platoon by a smoke barrage.

Soldiers on Tank Rescued

They took refuge in a shell hole, when they heard calls for help from a disabled American tank about fifty yards away. Though the intervening space was swept by an extremely heavy German machine gun and trench mortar fire, all three ran to the aid of the tank. O'Shea fell mortally wounded, but Eggers and Latham reached the tank, rescuing a wounded officer and two soldiers, and assisting them to the cover of a nearby trench.

Eggers and Latham then returned to the tank, dismounted one of the tank's machine guns, and carried it back to the trench. They were well advanced in the enemy lines but used their machine gun with such accurate effect for the remainder of the day that the enemy was unable to approach. When darkness fell they regained the American line carrying the tank's wounded and the machine gun with them.

General Pershing pinned the honor medals on the two boys' breasts four months after the deed was accomplished. O'Shea's medal was sent to his father in New York. All were also recipients of the British Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Relative Frank Gaffney, of Chapel Street, Lockport, N. Y., is another honor man. Gaffney, an automatic rifle man with Company G, 118th Regiment, won his badge for extraordinary heroism at Sennoy, Picardy, also on September 29. After all his comrades were either killed or wounded at his side, Gaffney went alone to discover several Germans placing machine guns into positions for fire upon our infantry. Without regard for the unequal numbers, Gaffney attacked the entire German crew, killing them one by one with his rifle. He bombed out several dumps in the vicinity, killed a few more Germans with his pistol and then held his ground until reinforcements came up.

With the reinforcements he assisted in capturing several prisoners. Gaffney was later wounded and is now in a hospital, but will have recovered sufficiently when the division sails to be able to accompany it.

Sergeant Roder Waaler, of New York City and Christiania, Norway, who joined the New York National Guard in New York City while a Norwegian subject, returns to New York as an American citizen, wearing America's highest distinction for bravery, the fifth Congressional honor medal held by the New York divisions. Waaler signed his citizenship papers a short time ago, just before General Pershing pinned the medal on him.

Crawled Into Blazing Tank

Waaler is a member of Company A, 102nd Machine Gun Battalion. Early on the morning of September 27, a British tank passed through the position held by Waaler's platoon and exploded a mine 200 yards beyond. The explosion ignited the tank's oil supply and soon the tank was a blazing mass. The tank was filled with ammunition which promised to explode at any moment. Waaler called for volunteers to help him rescue those in the tank, but the others, thinking the rescue useless, allowed Waaler to crawl out alone.

The enemy was concentrating its fire on the blazing tank, but Waaler succeeded in reaching the tank, and, finding it, he brought out a wounded lieutenant and two men. On reentering the tank his clothing caught fire, but he satisfied himself that all others of the tank's crew were dead. He forced German prisoners to assist him in carrying the wounded back to safety. The intensity of the fire in the vicinity of the tank may be demonstrated by the fact that every fourth man in Waaler's machine gun company was either killed or wounded.

Ten U. S. Army Men Get French Legion Medals

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Ten general officers of the American army were invested today with decorations of the French Legion of Honor, awarded them by decree of President Poincaré. General Collard, military attaché of the French Embassy, presented the decorations in the presence of Secretary Baker and French and American officers.

eral March, chief of staff, and the following were made commanders of the Legion of Honor:

Major General Frank McIntyre, assistant chief of staff; Henry Jervoy, director of operations; George W. Goethals, director of purchase, storage and traffic; and William C. Gorgas, formerly surgeon general.

Decorations of Officers of the Legion of Honor were conferred upon Major General C. C. Williams, chief of ordnance; Brigadier General Marlborough Churchill, director of military intelligence; Lytle Brown, director of main division, general staff; Frank T. Hines, director of embarkation; and Colonel Constant Cordier, liaison officer, general staff.

Veteran Officers Of State Guard to Resume Commands

Staff Correspondence

ALBANY, Feb. 13.—Orders were issued today by Adjutant General Berry to all commanders of units in the state's armed forces to reorganize their commands immediately, so that they will conform to the Federal requirements. All former officers of the National Guard who fought the Germans are to have their old places back, so far as practicable.

The orders were issued following a report to the Legislature of the reorganization of the units of the National Guard. The report, which was transmitted by Governor Smith, said that there was no need of new legislation to carry out its recommendations. The committee's findings, on which the adjutant general's orders are predicated, follow:

That the adjutant general immediately order each unit commander to take all necessary steps for the reorganization of his command so that it will attain the standard required by the national defense act of 1916.

That when a unit reports that it is reorganized according to the required standard and ready for instruction, the adjutant general shall immediately take such steps as may be necessary to obtain arms and equipment for that organization from the Federal government.

That where a unit, as a company, battalion or regiment, occupies an armory, the commanding officer thereof shall make such arrangements as may be possible to have units returning from Federal service officially welcomed at the armory and have them resume their state military service.

That where two or more officers of the same grade are available for a single position the matter shall be referred to the division commander, an officer with actual combat experience in the late war to be given the preference.

"While promptness in this matter is desirable, it is realized," Adjutant General Berry said, "that conditions vary in different parts of the state, and that the work of reorganization will not go on with a uniform degree of promptness. The return of men from the Federal service is also a factor to be considered. It is not intended that the reorganization shall be conducted in such a manner that no one desiring to serve will be shut out, or that the command will become demobilized. Men who are unwilling or unable to serve under the conditions required of Federal forces should be retained in the service under their present status until such time as their places can be filled by those who can meet Federal requirements."

Returning Troops See Brave Seaman Killed in Storm

A storm came up suddenly last Friday on the Atlantic that terrorized 1,536 soldiers who were between decks on the armored cruiser Seattle. Most of the fighters had it on their minds last night when the warship docked and they cared to talk of little else. They had faced the worst the Kaiser had to offer on the Western front, but in all their experience they said they had never been through a more terrifying time.

With it all came a supreme admiration for one lone member of the crew whose life was lost as he calmly watched the storm.

Soldiers weakened by gas and shell shock and fighters who had seen men blown to bits declared that Alvah H. Powell, of the Seattle's engine room force, who was killed before their eyes, was the greatest man aboard.

Powell had been friendly with the soldiers and had cheered them as they lay seasick in their bunks, and his sudden death was a shock.

On Thursday midnight a moderate blow from the west began to stiffen and before noon on Friday, a developed into hurricane force. The Seattle rolled and pitched and tons of water poured over the turrets. Commander Culbertson said the wind recorded a velocity of 102 miles an hour before it tore the instrument from its base and carried it into the sea. Every one was sent between decks.

About noon, when the storm was at its worst, Powell came up from the engine room to cheer the seafaring soldiers. He was hot and grimy and wanted to cool off, so he opened one of the big steel doors on the quarter deck and watched the storm.

The door was made fast by a rod that held it half way open. As he stepped up to take a look a wave curled over the port quarter, smashed the rod that held the door and drove it against Powell, killing him instantly. He caught the full force of the blow on his chest and died of internal injuries. Powell came from Little Rock, Ark. where he had lived with his sister, Mrs. Della Brown.

Two days later Ralph I. Goorow, a ship's cook, died of hemorrhage, following an operation. He lived with his mother, Mrs. Eliza Goorow, at 412 Burnett Avenue, Syracuse, N. Y.

Another death in the crew of the Seattle occurred on the eastbound trip when Howard D. Waltrip, of Kenneth, Mo., died of pneumonia. The bodies of the three were embalmed and brought to port.

Ansell Tells of Thousands in Prison Unjustly

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other uncalled for remark. The sentence for this offense was forty years in prison and dishonorable discharge. On review the sentence was reduced to fifteen years. General Ansell said that he considered this a mere company row which the officer should have been able to settle without a court-martial.

"That officer," commented Senator Thomas, "could render tardy justice by hastening to the place to which the boy consigned him. He is a damned fool." And the Senator insisted that his comment should go into the record.

General Ansell Shocked

Another case was that of twelve non-commissioned officers who for some trivial offense against a young officer just out of West Point were sentenced to dishonorable discharge and three to seven years in prison.

This case, as well as others, so shocked General Ansell's "every sense of justice" that in an effort to find some relief for an intolerable situation he finally discovered a forgotten law passed in 1892 that gave him authority to deal with this case that the convicted men were restored to duty.

However, forty or fifty years of adverse precedent, vast bundles of red tape and the effect of military tradition were such that this old law was not adequate, and the only possible relief was in a new enactment by Congress that would reorganize the whole procedure and take away from commanding officers the great powers they now have over courts martial and es-tablish the War Department an office that would have independent power of review of all cases.

Thousands Unjustly Punished

General Ansell impressed the members of the committee with the conviction that thousands of men are now

serving sentences unjustly imposed. As a general rule, he said, the sentences were grossly excessive in the first instances and still so after revision.

Senator Frothinghugh suggested that in order to do justice it might be necessary to declare a general amnesty for all military convicts.

The general made it plain that the lamentable state of the administration of military justice was not so much the fault of officers as of custom, tradition, procedure and law, and that the relief desired could only be obtained by a comprehensive new law. He did not hesitate to say that the excessive punishments, instead of promoting discipline, had a decidedly depressing effect on the morale of the army.

General Ansell will continue his testimony at a future meeting of the committee, which has now before it the Chamberlain bill "to promote the administration of military justice."

Colonel, Disgraced, Committed Suicide, Congress Is Told

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Continuing his attack on army administration abroad, Representative Gallivan, of Massachusetts, in the House today assailed the conduct of the reclassification camp at Blois, France, which he declared had been the scene of terrible injustices done National Guard and reserve army officers.

Mr. Gallivan cited the case of Colonel McClure, who committed suicide at Blois after he had "met disgrace at this tribunal of injustice," and was then reported by the War Department as "killed in action."

Representative Gallivan announced that the last mail from France had brought him forty letters from officers in the expeditionary force, from colonels down to second lieutenants, appealing and approving his recent utterances and giving additional evidence of mistreatment of American officers. Discussing the case of Colonel Cavander, the reading of the following letter was received by the House in a hushed silence:

"Colonel Joseph Cavander, who left Wyoming with as good a regiment of husky Westerners as was ever organized, and who was transferred from the infantry to the artillery with no choice, and who took up the new

work with vim and enthusiasm, and put together a regiment whose record has not been exceeded, and who were on the fighting line for five long months, was detached from the regiment and sent to the same board, where he was informed that he could take a captain's commission, or go home. Broken hearted, he walked over to the hotel and fired a 45-caliber pistol bullet into his brain, and then the casualty reports showed him 'killed in action.' I have in mind at least fifty generals, colonels and lieutenant colonels of the National Guard who have met disgrace at this tribunal of injustice, and I will be glad to furnish the names and addresses if they are needed."

Baker Approves Changes In Methods of Treating U. S. Military Prisoners

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Modern methods of treating military prisoners and of keeping men liable to become delinquents out of the army, recommended by the recent conference here of commanders of disciplinary barracks, have been approved by Secretary Baker. It was announced today that the adjutant general had been instructed to see that sixteen specific recommendations which involve important changes were worked out in regulations.

The situation at Leavenworth Barracks, where 3,000 prisoners were on strike some time ago and now are quiet and working under an "armistice agreement," played a considerable part in the deliberations of the commanders' conference. In that connection, Secretary Baker's announcement today pointed out that a survey of the inmates at Leavenworth made by the medical department disclosed that there are three groups among the prisoners, the first, including two-thirds of the whole, being classified as men who are "individualistic, opinionated, self-willed, or vain to an extreme degree."

Chile and Argentina Join Against Bolsheviki

SANTIAGO, Chile, Feb. 13.—As a result of anarchistic outbreaks and disorders on both sides of the Chile-Argentina frontier, the Chilean Foreign Office is preparing a convention with Argentina relative to frontier police and extradition.

Motor Truck Show Stimulating Trade In Other Branches

Dealers in Small Vehicles Especially Encouraged by Sales; Protest Against Plan to Double State Fees

That the motor truck show at Madison Square Garden and the 69th Regiment Armory is serving a useful purpose as a business stimulator, not only for commercial motor vehicle dealers in New York, but for other business men here, is evidenced by the large attendance and active buying such as yesterday's. Although by no means comparing with last week's passenger car section of the show in point of attendance, the second part of the big motor vehicle display is keeping pace with it as a business proposition.

Exhibitors are enthusiastic over results. Dealers handling light delivery vehicles naturally are coming in for a greater share of the business. Yesterday was "Motor Truck Clubs and Associations Day," and delegations from various organizations interested in transportation were represented among the visitors. The Motor Truck Club of New Jersey sent over almost 100 of its members in the evening.

The regular monthly meeting of the Motor Truck Association of America was held in the afternoon and following adjournment the members moved to the show buildings in a body. At this meeting David Beecroft delivered a talk on "Impressions of Motor Trucks in the War Zone," in which he cited the commendable performances of the modern commercial vehicle in all sorts of duty at the battle front and the back areas of the war zone. Mr. Beecroft only recently returned from an extended trip through England, France and Italy as the guest of the British government, during which he made an exhaustive study of the part the motor truck played in the war. At the meeting of truck owners in

the metropolitan section the proposal to double the registration fees on motor vehicles in New York State came in for expressions of indignation. No official action was taken, but it is understood that the Motor Truck Association of America will protest against the adoption of such a measure. The proposed vehicular tunnel connecting lower New York and Jersey City was called a near reality. One of the association executives said it was practically certain that the New York legislature would appropriate \$1,000,000 as part of this State's portion of the expense. New Jersey has already adopted a measure appropriating an amount equal to that granted by New York up to \$2,000,000. General Goethals has estimated that it will cost about \$12,000,000 to build the tunnel.

To-day will be "Rural Motor Express Day" at the show.

D. S. M. Awarded Franklin For War Shipping Work

Mercantile Marine President Had Charge of All Tonnage for American Army

The Distinguished Service Medal has been awarded to P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine Company, in recognition of his work as chairman of the Shipping Control Committee. In that capacity he had charge of all army tonnage, as well as all other shipping in American ports, and of the shipment of army materials overseas. When the armistice was signed he controlled 450 vessels and was shipping several millions of tons of supplies each month. Sir John H. Borgeum, brother of Gustav Borgeum, has received the Croix de Guerre for "his devoted work" for French soldiers as a Y. M. C. A. worker. He is a sealer, best known for his equestrian studies. His home is in Connecticut and he has a studio in New York.

Dead Girls Are Identified

Two young women, who were found dead from illuminating gas Wednesday in a room they had engaged that day at 555 Ninth Street, Brooklyn, were identified yesterday as Ethel Swager and Grace Sullivan. Miss Swager lived at 672 Fifty-seventh Street, Brooklyn, and Miss Sullivan at 666



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Striking Reduction in Package Delivery Cost Wins \$500 Prize for Truck Driver



IRST PRIZE in Class C of the Packard National Truck Efficiency Test goes to a truck driver in Chicago. Working his

truck on modern business methods taught by the Packard Freight Transportation Department, this driver handled in August 6,873 packages, and reduced his carrying cost 1 cent per package—a saving of \$68.73 per month, or \$825 for the year.

Wholesale grocery business, delivering boxed, barreled and bagged goods to a route of retail stores.

Frequent stops and starts with short runs. Starting with full load and returning empty or practically so.

In August alone he *saved enough* to pay the owner at the rate of 15 per cent a year on the cost of the truck.

Many a truck owner does not realize the difference between the two classes of truck load—

The solid capacity load, hauled in its entirety from origin to destination—

And the load made up of a number of smaller shipments to be dropped off here and there along the route.

In the second case he should have a smaller truck.

Here is a distinction which may make a difference of \$700 per truck on his fleet investment, and as much as \$200 to \$250 a year per truck in his operating costs.

It is a matter of buying the truck to *fit the job*.

Guessing at the size of truck needed is one cause of much of the excess cost in motor trucking.

Motor trucking, its service, its costs and economies, is one of the liveliest issues of the day.

The business man needs first of all to get the *facts*—the experience of people competent to speak.

That is the function of the Freight-Transportation Department of your local Packard Branch or Packard Dealer.

It is a Department not of Sales but of *Service*.

Its place and purpose are to tell you, the truck owner and driver, how modern business methods, applied to your present make of trucks, will effect transportation economies in your business.

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